

YOCHA DEHE WINTUN NATION

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COLLEGE

PROPOSED GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

RATIONALE

This document provides an approach to governing the planned tribal college of California. Due to the location and number of federally recognized tribes, the challenge is to create a governance structure that ensures tribal governmental input into decisions made on behalf of the California Tribal College and provide leadership by each tribe as well as set forth a system of accountability.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

General

The California Tribal College shall be governed by a Board of Trustees ("Board") selected through the California Tribal College Advisory Council ("Advisory Council") and the California Tribal College Leadership Council ("Leadership Council") discussed below. Three members of the Board shall be elected by the Advisory Council and four members of the Board shall be elected by the Leadership Council.

Advisory Council

A California Tribal College Advisory Council ("Advisory Council") will be created to provide representation to the California Tribal College for all of the federally recognized tribes in California who express an interest in the California Tribal College and thereby become Member Tribes of the California Tribal College through the Advisory Council. The Advisory Council shall consist of a representative appointed by the governing body of each such Member Tribe to serve on the Advisory Council. Tribes electing to become Member Tribes supporting the California Tribal College shall each be entitled to appoint an individual to serve on the Advisory Council. Only such Member Tribes may appoint representatives to the Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council shall be organized according to regions within the State of California. There shall be three regions representing the tribes of the Northern, Southern, and Central part of the State of California. The tribes in each region shall be in accordance with the Bureau of Indian Affairs model for the tribes in California. A list of tribes by regions may be found in Exhibit A. Representatives of the Member Tribes in each of the three regions shall elect their respective Regional Representatives to the Board. [A Board member for each region may be nominated by not less than ____ representatives [or a specified percentage] of the members of that region. Member Tribes shall vote on the nominees for the applicable region and the Regional Representatives appointed to the Board shall be that nominee receiving the highest number of votes.]

The primary purposes of the Advisory Council will be to: (1) elect three Regional Members of the Board for the California Tribal College ; (2) receive reports and meet bi-annually with their Board representatives; (3) provide feedback to their respective tribes on the status of the California Tribal College; (4) provide recommendations to the Regional Members to carry to the Board from their tribes relating to all aspects of the college including, but not limited to: curriculum, administration, finances, student needs, scholarship, etc., and (5) select an elder from each region to serve as a cultural and spiritual advisor to the California Tribal College.

Tribes participating in the governance of California Tribal College shall be required to pay annual membership dues.

[Responsibilities of the members of the Advisory Council are further described in Exhibit B.]

Leadership Council

Certain tribes will provide substantial financial support for the California Tribal College. A California Tribal College Leadership Council ("Leadership Council") will be created to provide these tribes an additional opportunity for direct representation on the Board of Directors for the California Tribal College. An opportunity for a seat on the Leadership Council is available to all willing California tribes ("Contributing Tribes"), and a seat on the Leadership Council would require an additional threshold contribution. The Leadership Council shall consist of a representative appointed by the governing body of each of the Contributing Tribes to serve on the Leadership Council (which shall be in addition to such Tribes' representation on the Advisory Council). Contributing Tribes shall each be entitled to appoint an individual to serve on the Leadership Council. Only Contributing Tribes may appoint representatives to the Leadership Council.

The Leadership Council shall elect four members of the Board. The four representatives on the Leadership Council receiving the highest number of votes from Leadership Council representatives shall be those elected to the Board. The primary purposes of the Leadership Council will be to (i) elect four members of the Board for the California Tribal College; and (ii) provide recommendations to the California Tribal College regarding fundraising and financial matters.

[Responsibilities of the members of the Leadership Council are further described in Exhibit C.]

Compensation for Member and Contributing Tribes

Each Member Tribe shall be responsible for the expenses of its representative to the Advisory Council and each Contributing Tribe shall be responsible for the expenses of its representative to Leadership Council. This will include stipends/honorariums to attend meetings, mileage, meals and lodging. Each Member Tribe and Contributing Tribe shall determine, in their own discretion, whether its responsive representative will be a volunteer, an employee of the tribe, a member of the Tribal Council or a tribal member. No compensation will be provided to such persons from the California Tribal College.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES/DIRECTORS

The Board shall consist of three Regional Representatives (Member Tribes who are elected by region, and by the tribal members participating on the Advisory Council for each region), four representative Contributing Tribes (elected by the Leadership Council), and two at-large members selected by the elected representatives to the Board. The two at-large members shall be non-voting members, and may be individuals the Board deems beneficial to the California Tribal College, in that they possess particularized expertise or knowledge relevant to higher education. In the discretion of the Board, the at-large members need not be Native American or members of any particular tribe. The College President and the Student Governing Body President shall attend and report to each Board meeting but shall not be members of the Board.

Terms

In order to ensure continuity in governance, the terms of the Board members shall be four years and terms shall be staggered, with elections to begin two years after the initial Board is seated. This would mean that the first term of some of the initial Board members would be for two or three years before they face re-election for the first time.

Member Tribes and Contributing Tribes appointed to the Board should not seek such an appointment if there is not a willingness and ability to serve the full term.

Board Compensation

Participation on the Board shall be voluntary and not compensated. This will best protect the participating Board members, from the risk of liability. In addition, the Board will be required to secure and maintain Directors & Officers liability coverage to protect the Board participants from any risk of liability. The Board will adhere to Bylaws that address rules of governance and conflicts of interest.

The Board will strive to ensure non-federally recognized Tribes and unaffiliated Indians have a voice in the development of the Tribal College's policies.

Qualifications of Trustees/Directors

Each Board member shall be a registered member of a California federally recognized tribe that is a member of the Advisory Council who:

1. Has experience and dedication to higher education to provide sound judgments concerning the administration of the College;
2. Has a minimum of a Bachelor of Arts or Sciences degree from an accredited institution of higher education;
3. Has no adverse finding from a background investigation as conducted by the Advisory Council;

Other possible criteria:

1. Is committed to the mission of the California Tribal College;
2. Has expressed a willingness to actively participate in challenging others (individuals, corporations, foundations, government entities) to provide gifts and grants to support the College's operations and mission;
3. Is committed to participating in regular and special meetings of the Board;
4. Is able to participate and contribute in a group environment for purposes of considering the governance and advancing the interests of the College; and
5. Recognizes that no individual Board member (or group of Board members other than the entire Board) has any authority of any kind in the management of the College and that all matters of governance of the College involve the full Board.]

[Responsibilities of the members of the Board of Trustees/Directors are further described in Exhibit D.]

EXHIBIT A

TRIBAL REGIONS

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA AGENCY: 21,085

Benton Paiute Reservation - 136
Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley - 398
Big Sandy Rancheria - 434
Big Valley Rancheria - 696
Bishop Paiute Tribe - 1323
Bridgeport Indian Colony - 131
Buena Vista Rancheria - 8
Cahto Tribal Executive Committee - 81
California Valley Miwok Tribe - 5
Chicken Ranch Rancheria - 25
Cloverdale Rancheria - 436
Cold Springs Rancheria - 213
Colusa Rancheria~Cachil Dehe - 69
Cortina Rancheria - 152
Dry Creek Rancheria - 931
Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria - 1083
Fort Independence Reservation - 101
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake - 184
Ione Band of Miwok Indians - 652
Jackson Rancheria - 30
Lone Pine Paiute Shoshone Reservation - 295

Lower Lake Rancheria - 44
Lytton Rancheria - 273
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of the Chico Rancheria - 442
Middletown Rancheria - 91
North Fork Rancheria - 1377
Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians - 270
Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians - 1234
Potter Valley Tribe - 6
Round Valley Reservation - 3785
Rumsey Rancheria ~ Yocha Dehe - 44
Santa Rosa Rancheria - 738
Scotts Valley Rancheria - 203
Shingle Springs Rancheria - 310
Stewarts Point Rancheria ~ Kashia Band - 663
Table Mountain Rancheria - 115
Timbi-sha Shoshone Tribe - 331
Tule River Reservation - 1555
Tuolumne Rancheria - 376
United Auburn Indian Community - 263
Washoe NV & CA - 1582

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AGENCY: 22,136

Alturas Rancheria - 11
Bear River Band of Rohnerville Rancheria - 291
Berry Creek Rancheria - 617
Big Lagoon Rancheria - 17
Blue Lake Rancheria - 51
Cedarville Rancheria - 33
Coyote Valley Reservation - 373
Elem Indian Colony - 112
Elk Valley Rancheria - 98
Enterprise Rancheria - 414
Fort Bidwell Reservation - 306
Greenville Rancheria - 103
Grindstone Rancheria - 137
Guidiville Rancheria - 114
Hoopa Valley Tribal Council - 2130
Hopland Reservation - 737

Karuk Tribe of California - 3427
Manchester - Point Arena Band of Pomo Indians - 783
Mooretown Rancheria - 1149
Pinoleville Reservation - 237
Pit River Tribal Council - 2381
Quartz Valley Reservation - 222
Redding Rancheria - 233
Redwood Valley Reservation - 162
Resighini Rancheria - 111
Robinson Rancheria - 433
Sherwood Valley Rancheria - 406
Smith River Rancheria - 1008
Susanville Indian Rancheria - 431
Trinidad Rancheria ~ Cher-Ae Heights- 171
Wiyot Tribe - 526
Yurok Tribe - 4912

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AGENCY: 10,906

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians - 418
Augustine Band of Mission Indians - 8
Barona Band of Mission Indians - 455
Cabazon Tribal Business Committee - 30
Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians - 307
Campo Band of Mission Indians - 302
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians - 7
Inaja-Cosmit Reservation - 19
Jamul Indian Village - 63
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians - 604
La Posta Band of Mission Indians - 16
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians - 288
Manzanita Band of Mission Indians - 105
Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians - 690
Morongo Band of Mission Indians - 1015

Pala Band of Mission Indians - 906
Pauma/Yuima Band of Mission Indians - 189
Pechanga Band of Mission Indians - 1342
Ramona Band of Mission Indians - 7
Rincon Band of Mission Indians - 575
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians - 178
San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Indians - 429
Santa Rosa Band of Mission Indians - 141
Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians - 154
Santa Ysabel Band of Mission Indians - 768
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians - 963
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation - 73
Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians - 573
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians - 13
Viejas Band of Mission Indian - 268

EXHIBIT B

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COLLEGE ADVISORY COUNCIL

The members of the California Tribal College Advisory Council (“Advisory Council”) should be officially appointed by each tribe participating in developing the Tribal College. The Advisory Council shall meet on a regular basis as determined by its membership.

The members of the Advisory Council shall serve at the appointing tribe’s discretion and continue until it is determined their role is no longer necessary.

The expenses of the respective members of the Advisory Council shall be assumed by the delegate’s tribe. Expenses might include pay (if any), and would likely include expenses associated with travel (mileage, meals and lodging), to be compensated at the discretion of each tribe.

The Advisory Council shall meet on a bi-annual basis to: (1) discuss needs and progress of the California Tribal College; (2) review recommendations of the regional bodies; (3) develop plans for upcoming years; and (4) participate in other functions as needed.

The duties of the Advisory Council shall include but not be limited to the following:

- Recommend an appropriate governing structure to facilitate tribal engagement and support
- Review and recommend academic programs
- Assist with finding a campus site
- Serve as the Tribal College’s representative for their respective tribes
- Update their respective Tribal Council on a regular basis
- Assist in finalizing a name for the California Tribal College.
- Participate in the search process for the college president
- Serve in an advisory capacity to the president and to the Board of Regents
- Attend quarterly regional meetings
- Attend a bi-annual meeting

EXHIBIT C

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COLLEGE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The members of the Leadership Council will have the additional responsibilities of serving as a Finance and Investment Committee. As such they will:

- Review financial reports on a monthly basis.
- Provide advice on investments.
- Participate in the selection of the audit firm.
- Keep the Board of Trustees informed on the annual audit.
- Attend donor solicitation meetings
- Attend and support fundraising events
- Assist the President and staff in raising funds to support the college in all aspects, including, but not limited to operations, scholarships, endowments, academic program, and facilities.

EXHIBIT D

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

CALIFORNIA TRIBAL COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES/DIRECTORS

- Hire the President
- Conduct an annual evaluation of the President
- Assist president in developing presidents annual employment goals and objectives
- Establish and approve policies and procedures
- Approve the Strategic Plan
- Attend meetings on a quarterly basis
- Attend special meetings as needed
- Approve the annual budget
- Engage a CPA to perform an annual audit
- Fundraising, or assuring financial resources to carry out college mission
- Serve as an Ambassador for the college
- Support the President in fulfilling project goals
- Develop mission and programs
- Strategic thinking and planning
- Provide quarterly reports to the California Tribal College Advisory Council
- Serve on Committees as assigned/needed.